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Kerala: The Land, the Rain, and the People

1) What is the staple food of Keralites?

Rice

2)) "Why are vegetables, grains, flowers, etc. brought here from other states?"

- Enough vegetables are not produced in Kerala.
- People are in our state not interested in agricultural work.
- Farmers do not get adequate price.
- High wages of workers.

3) What are the essential factors required for cultivation?

- Fertile soil
- Favourable climate
- Availability of water
- Manpower
- Better seeds
- Tools and machines
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4) What are the major types of soils found in Kerala and Tamil Nadu

Kerala	Tamil Nadu
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alluvial soil• Laterite soil• Forest soil• Red soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Red soil• Black soil• Laterite soil• Coastal alluvium

5) Which soil is ideal for agriculture?

Alluvial soil (എക്കൽ മണ്ണ്)

6) How many rivers are there in Kerala?

44

7) How many rivers are there in Tamil Nadu?

14

8) What are the favourable conditions for the growth of agriculture in Kerala?

- Fertile alluvial soil exists in Kerala.
- Annual rainfall is more than 300cm, which is ideal for agriculture.
- There are 44 rivers in Kerala for the better availability of water.

9) Compare the agricultural situations in Kerala and Tamil Nadu?

Kerala	Tamil Nadu
• Alluvial soil exists in Kerala, which is ideal for agriculture.	• Alluvial soil does not exist in Tamil Nadu
• Annual rainfall is 300 cm	• Average annual rainfall is 95.9 cm only.
• 44 rivers	• 14 rivers
• Irrigation is not necessary in most places	• Irrigation is necessary

The physiographic diversity and agriculture in Kerala

10) What are the physiographical divisions of Kerala based on sea level?

- 1) Highland (മലനാട്)
- 2) Midland (ഇടനാട്)
- 3) Lowland (തീരപ്രദേശം)

Highland



11) Highland is the part of mountain ranges.

Sahyadri mountain ranges

12) What are the major crops of Highland?

- Tea
- Coffee
- Cardamom
- Pepper
- Ginger
- Turmeric

13) What are the geographical factors required for the cultivation of cardamom and tea?

The highland crops like cardamom and tea required,

- Temperature below 30° Celsius
- Abundant rainfall
- Well drained soil

14) Who is known as the father of rubber cultivation in India?

Jon Joseph Murphy

Midland

15) Which physiographical division of Kerala is suitable for diverse crops?

Midland

16) What are the favourable geographical factors for crop diversity in the midland region?

- Abundant rainfall
- Thick layers of alluvial soil in the river basins
- Laterite soil along the hilly tracts

17) Which is the chief commercial crop of Kerala?

Rubber

18) What are the major crops in midland?

- Cereals
- Vegetables
- Tuber crops
- Paddy
- Coconut
- Rubber
- Plantain
- Arecanut
- Pepper
- Sweet potato
- Etc

Lowland



19) What are the major crops in Lowland?

Coconut and paddy

20) Which soil is most suitable for paddy cultivation?

Alluvial soil

21) Which soil is most suitable for coconut cultivation?

Saline alluvial soil

22) What are the favourable geographical factors for the cultivation in lowland region of Kerala?

- The major crops of lowland are paddy and coconut.
- The deposits of alluvial soil in the lowlands are ideal for paddy cultivation
- The saline alluvial soil along the coastal stretches are ideal for coconut trees.

23) What are the reasons for decreasing of agriculture in lowland?

- The agricultural land transformed into settlements.
- This led to a decrease in the area of agricultural land.
- High cost of seeds and fertilizers
- Lack of labourers in the agricultural field.
- Climate changes.
- The cost of labour made agriculture less profitable.

Changing land use... changing lifestyle

24)

24) What conclusion do you arrive at by analyzing the table based on the above questions?

Crop	Year		
	1961	1987	2011
(Area in lakh hectares)			
Paddy	7.5	6.04	2.08
Tapioca	2.37	1.72	0.75
Coconut	5.05	7.75	8.21
Rubber	1.33	3.59	5.40

- Rubber cultivation increased while that of paddy and tapioca declined.
- The land area of paddy cultivation decreased the most.
- The land area of commercial crops like rubber and coconut increased.
- The land area of food crops like paddy and tapioca decreased.

Changing lifestyle

25) Write any 3 lifestyle diseases?

- Hypertension
- Heart disease
- Diabetes

26) What is known as lifestyle diseases?

Changes in lifestyle are the chief cause of many new generation diseases such as hypertension, heart disease, diabetes, etc. These are collectively known as lifestyle diseases.

27) What are the problems that occurred in the lifestyle of Keralites who shifted from the agro – based culture?

- Keralites slowly shifted from agriculture.
- This caused many changes in healthcare and daily lifestyle.
- Changes in lifestyle are the chief cause of many new generation diseases such as hypertension, heart disease, diabetes, etc. These are collectively known as lifestyle diseases
- Waste disposal is one of the major problem faced by the Keralites.

28) Each one has to work for self-sufficiency in food. As a student what measures can you adopt for this?

- Cultivate vegetables and fruits in our courtyard
- Make a vegetable garden in the school compound for the noon meal programme.

Waste disposal measures

29) Suggest some waste disposal methods at homes?

- Transform the bio-degradable waste, into organic manure.
- The bio-degradable waste can be used for making vermicompost.
- Making bio gas from bio-degradable waste.

30) What are the government agencies that promote agriculture in Kerala?

- V.F.P.C.K
- The State Horticulture Mission
- The agriculture department
- Kudumbasree mission

31) What are the functions of The State Horticulture Mission?

- Promoting the cultivation of different varieties of fruits, vegetables, spice crops, mushroom, and medicinal plants.
- Promotion of beekeeping.

32) What are the modern agricultural techniques?

- Greenhouse farming
- Precision farming
- Fertigation

33) In severely cold regions, crops are grown in glass roofed rooms in order to protect them. This method is known as ----- .

Greenhouse farming

34) Name the agricultural method of giving adequate care (water, manure, etc.) for each crop and soil type precisely at different stages?

Precision farming

35) Name the modern agricultural method of giving water and manure drop by drop.

Fertigation

36) Which day is observed as farmers day in Kerala?

Chingam 1

37) Agricultural proverbs - കൃഷി ചൊല്ലുകൾ

1. വിത്തുഗുണം പത്തു ഗുണം
2. ഞാറില്ലെങ്കിൽ ചോറില്ല.
3. മുളയിലറിയാം വിള.
4. പത്തായമുള്ളിടം പറയും കാണും.
5. കളപറിച്ചാൽ കളം നിറയും.
6. വിത്തിനൊത്ത വിള.
7. വിത്താഴം ചെന്നാൽ പത്തായം നിറയും
8. വിത്തു കുത്തി ഉണ്ണരുത്.
9. സമ്പത്തു കാലത്തു തൈ പത്തു നട്ടാൽ ആപത്തു കാലത്തു കാ പത്തു തിന്നാം.
10. ഞാറ്റിൽ പിഴച്ചാൽ ചോറ്റിൽ പിഴക്കും